29th September 1955]

Labour disputes in Fort Cochin

* 2579 *Q.*—Sri P. K. GOPALAKRISHNAN : Will the Hon. the Minister for Agriculture be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether the Government have received any representation from Sri P. K. Gopalakrishnan, M.L.A., on 5th October 1954 regarding a dispute between the Workers' Union and the managements of certain factories in Fort Cochin; and

(*b*) if so, the action taken thereon?

The Hon. Sri M. BHAKTAVATSALAM : (*a*) Yes, Sir.

(*b*) The Labour Officer, Kozhikode, held conciliation in the matter on 16th December 1954 and submitted his conciliation report to Government. The Government examined the conciliation report of the Labour Officer and issued orders refusing adjudication in respect of the demands raised on behalf of the workers of Volkart Bros., Peirce Leslie & Co., Ltd., Aspinwall & Co., Ltd., Bombay Co., Ltd., and Vasu Bros., Fort Cochin.

Central Road Traffic Board

* 2580 *Q.*—Sri V. K. RAMASWAMY MUDALIAR : Will the Hon. the Minister for Religious Endowments and Transport be pleased to state—

(*a*) why no non-official has so far been appointed to the Central Road Traffic Board and a single member has been allowed to function all these months; and

(*b*) whether the Government have any intention to appoint non-officials to the Board at an early date?

The Hon. Sri B. PARAMESWARAN : (*a*) The non-official member of the Central Road Traffic Board died in 1954 and no fresh appointment has been made, as the question of reorganization of the Central Road Traffic Board is under the consideration of the Government. Not only the Transport Commissioner, but other Official members also are participating in the meetings of the Board, when they find time to attend.

(*b*) In view of the impending reorganization of the Board, Government do not intend appointing a non-official to the Board in the vacancy caused by the death of the previous non-official member.

Sri V. K. RAMASWAMY MUDALIAR : Is it a fact, Sir, that the Inspector-General of Police and the Chief Engineer, Highways, felt delicate and did not attend the meeting presided over by an officer of lower rank, with the result that this C.R.T.B. has now become a one-man show?

The Hon. Sri B. PARAMESWARAN : Sir, it has not become a one-man show. The Commissioner is empowered to conduct the meeting, if any member is absent and if he does not